

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION

Executive Committee Meeting

LOCATION

Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference

Meeting Date

Friday, December 6, 2013
3:15 p.m.

Attendees:

Ric Nelson, Chair
Anna Attla
Art Delaune
Taylor Gregg
Karli Lopez
Lucy Odden

Staff:

Teresa Holt, Executive Director

Prepared by: Paula DiPaolo
Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order – 3:15 p.m.
Roll Call

DISCUSSION OF BOARD RETREAT

Ric Nelson stated that the purpose of this emergency meeting was to discuss the upcoming Council retreat.

Teresa Holt explained that her purpose in contacting Council members regarding the retreat was to find out their availability and to make travel arrangements for them to come to the January Council meeting in Juneau one day earlier to hold the retreat. During the communications with Council members, she was able to determine that 14 people could come, 12 people could not come, and two people were unknown. She further clarified that for the January Council meeting, of the 28 Council members, three are unable to attend the full Council meeting.

Teresa stated that during the communications with Council members, four Council members requested that the Executive Committee look at doing the retreat at the April meeting. Teresa was able to determine that 22 Council members would be able to attend a retreat during that April time frame.

Ric Nelson stated that during the last Executive Committee meeting, it was decided that Council members would not be given the option of choosing a time to hold the retreat. Teresa Holt stated that when she spoke to Council members, she did not afford them an option of one over the other. She was asking about availability for each.

Karli Lopez expressed her frustration with the fact that the Executive Committee has discussed this issue over the course of the last two meetings and has already voted on the issue. Teresa Holt explained that Council members are overwhelmingly in favor of attending a retreat, and upon e-mailing the availability information to the Executive Committee members, there were members of the Executive Committee that were willing to reconsider their previous decision on when to hold the retreat.

Teresa felt that it is her duty as the executive director to gather all the necessary information for the Executive Committee so they can make an

informed decision.

Karli Lopez stated that in encouraging Council members to take a more active role in their positions on the board, Council members need to be able to feel empowered that they can do what they set out to do as a board. She feels that in this retreat process, roadblocks keep shutting Council members out from accomplishing what they set out to do. Teresa Holt explained that the Council can do whatever they would like to do; she just wants to ensure they have all the necessary information to make their decision.

Teresa Holt then read from an e-mail from Dean Gates, who, in summary, agreed that the Executive Committee did not have all the information before they made their decision.

Ric Nelson stated that when the committee votes on an issue, the majority rules, and the majority voted on the January retreat. Teresa Holt reiterated that four committee members, the majority, expressed a desire to revisit the topic.

Executive Committee members present during this teleconference agreed unanimously to hold the retreat before the January meeting. Ric Nelson directed Teresa Holt to start making travel arrangements.

Karli Lopez asked how the Executive Committee can prevent communication breakdowns like this from happening in the future. Art Delaune suggested that this be a topic of discussion during the retreat.

ADJOURN

Lucy Odden **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting, and the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.